

## **CHI St. Alexius Health Garrison (Garrison, ND):**

Garrison Memorial Hospital delivers primary health care, long term care, and emergency department services to a population of approximately 5,975 in McLean, Ward, McHenry, and Mountrail Counties. We operate a 22-bed Critical Access Hospital and a 28-bed skilled nursing facility. We also operate a rural health clinic in Garrison, North Dakota. Our facility employs approximately 97 people with another 30 third party vendor employees.

Our mission is: *"The mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we create healthier communities."*

### **THE BENEFITS OF THE 340B PROGRAM:**

Garrison Memorial Hospital uses the benefits of the 340B program to subsidize essential health services that are high cost but are essential to our community. We also utilize the 340B program to subsidize and offer expanded charity care for our indigent patients. We offer free public education and health screenings at various public events.

- GMH provides financial assistance to patients who are unable to pay their medical bills.
- GMH uses 340B funds to maintain vital community services such as the emergency department, family clinic, and cardiac rehab.
- GMH offers free health screenings at health fairs and ag shows.
- Our rural health clinic offers a sliding fee schedule to uninsured and underinsured patients.

Garrison Memorial Hospital makes medical care accessible to the entire community it serves. It operates a 24-hour, Level 5 state certified emergency room. In 2017/2018, we had 2,160 emergency room visits. We also had 323 acute days of care, 4,256 swing bed days, 8,944 days of skilled nursing care, and 4,498 clinic visits. Garrison Memorial Hospital's charity care policy provides discounted and free services to patients who lack the resources to be fully responsible for the healthcare they receive. The Charity Care policy is designed to ensure the population served by Garrison Memorial Hospital has access to needed healthcare services. In fiscal year 2017/2018, Garrison Memorial Hospital and its clinic had \$56,112 in charity care and Indian Health Services and \$296,827 in bad debt write offs. Our rural health clinic offers a sliding fee schedule to uninsured and underinsured patients. One hundred percent of qualified uninsured or underinsured sliding fee schedule patients are written off as charity care. In 2017/2018, Garrison Memorial Hospital's payer mix was approximately 37% Medicare, 31% Medicaid, 1% Indian Health Services, 14% self-pay and 17% commercial insurance. All payers are charged the same regardless of insurance.

### **IMPACT IF THE PROGRAM WAS SCALED BACK**

The 340B program had net revenue of \$366,062.24. This program helped Garrison to offer \$400,120 of net community benefit expenses in FY 2018. This included, but was not limited to, a free Community Health Fair; 60 individual free Glucose and Cholesterol checks; 19 community member CPR certifications; and 64 individuals receiving charity care on 106 visits. Garrison Memorial Hospital would struggle to be able to provide these community benefits if the 340B program was scaled back.